

West Seattle Golf Driving Range Public Meeting #1

Wednesday, August 4, 2010 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Seattle Parks and Recreation: Garrett Farrell, Project Manager,

Seattle Parks and Recreation: Paul Wilkinson, Director of Golf Operations

RW Thorpe and Associates, prime consultant: Robert W. Thorpe & Lee A. Michaelis

OB SPORTS, INCORPORATED, sub consultant: **Orrin Vincent**

iCon Golf Studio, Sub Consultant: Todd Schoeder

GBD ARCHITECTS INCORPORATED, sub consultant: **Annie Usher** TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS, INC, sub consultant: **Jeffrey Hee**

Notes and Summary:

(A detailed listing of the design team is attached.)

7:00 P.M., Garrett Farrell (GF), Seattle Parks opened the meeting, introduced himself as the project manager and gave a brief history of the golf master plan developed in 2009. GF then reviewed the consultant selection process undertaken by Parks in 2010 that resulted in the selection of RW Thorpe and Associates as the prime consultant for this project.

GF described the driving range location as depicted in the Golf Master Plan. The range is sited at the base of the slope below the Rotary Overlook and extends south into Camp Long. GF stressed this location, established by the master plan is the starting point for our discussion in Public Meeting #1. The team will share their opinions of the pros and cons of what is shown in the master plan and Parks wants to hear from the community. We will take all of your questions and we may not have answers to all of them tonight. We will have a lot more information at meeting #2

GF introduced Robert Thorpe (RT) who gave a brief intro of his firm, introduced Lee Michaelis from RW Thorpe and the sub consultants in attendance:

Orrin Vincent (OV), Todd Schoeder (TS), Anne Usher (AU) and Jeffrey Hee (JH)

RT noted that this is the first project from the master plan and the team places a high priority on getting this right.

Parks Director of Golf Operations, Paul Wilkinson identified himself and noted that RW Thorpe was selected from 14 teams and they have experience and expertise to deliver the project at this challenging site.

TS opened with a discussion of the range configuration as defined in the master plan noting that we have a budget and need to deliver a first class driving range within that budget. He described the overall dimensions, impacts of netting , poles, grading and tree removal. The overall width of 260 feet will be less than the 400 foot standard , the length of 300 yards is consistent with a first class facility. The site close to 35th will need netting on all 4 sides and the netting will need to extend 120 feet above grade. Actual grade will depend on soil conditions and preliminary information shows ground water will be an issue.

GF stated that Parks has already performed soil borings and is monitoring ground water levels at the site. We are aware that the site has many challenges and are taking a long look at all the information before we tear into anything .Because once we bite it off we have to chew on it.

TS and AU continued with discussions of downcast lighting and other mitigation measures that could lessen the impacts. The pro's of location shown in the master plan are the limited impacts to the existing course, the cons are definitely the grading , hillside impacts, netting and tree removal.

GF noted that the master plan was not created by this design team, they have shared their opinions and now I need to hear from you .

(Parks and the team began taking questions, a full list of the questions is attached)

TS stressed that the design team shares many of the concerns expressed by the public

RW noted that a successful project could enhance the facilities ability to serve as a training ground for younger players and foster more community involvement.

RW also noted we had a traffic engineer present who was not getting any questions.

GF stated the team would stay and answer any questions from the community and they can expect a second public meeting in September 2010.

8:15 pm meeting was concluded